

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board

Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2000

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board met on Friday, October 20, at 8:00a.m., at the Wilkinson/Stumbo Convention Center in Prestonsburg. Commissioner Billy Ray Smith, Vice Chair called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Members Present:

Commissioner Billy Ray Smith, Vice Chairman; John-Mark Hack, Executive Director; Daniel Case; Larry Clay; Susan Harkins; Wayne Hunt; Keith Jeffries; Sam Lawson; Dean C. Oran Little; Sam Moore; Willa Poynter; Eddie Sellers; Mike Slaughter; and Gene Fuqua for Secretary Gene Strong.

Members Absent:

Seth Conner.

Others Present:

Mark Farrow and Eddie Duvall, Department of Agriculture; Brad Wellons, Steve Mason and Sharon Cantrell, LRC; Jeff Hall, UK; Mark Kaser and Aimee Russillo, Kentucky Wood Products; John Barrick, Allorganic; Beverly Lawson; Char Hecht, Sheri L. Arms, Manville Bradford, John Logan Brent, Lori Bohannon, Chuck Smith, Amy McCowan, and Joe McCowan, Community Farm Alliance; Jack Kimbrough and John Stevenson, KY Cattlemen's Association; Sharon Burton, The Farmer's Pride; Sylvia Lovely, KY League of Cities; Eric Tarvin, Troy Martin, and William Thomas, Robertson County Agricultural Development Council; Beth Tillery, Jackson County Agricultural Development Council; Kelli Rodman, Commonwealth Group; Steve Coleman, KY Division of Conservation; Dan Cherry KY TriModal Transpark; J. Alvin Lyons, Scott County Agricultural Development Council; Sean M. Cutter, McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie and Kirkland; Larry and Carolyn Jeffries, KY Forage and Grasslands Council; and Ashley Davis, Ben Gramig, Joel Neaveill, Lisa Thomas, and Tim Woods, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy.

Minutes of the September 21 –23, 2000 Meeting:

The minutes of the September 21- 23 meeting were approved as written.

Opening Remarks:

Commissioner Smith welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He explained that Governor Patton was unable to attend the meeting; as he was attending the funeral of Missouri Governor Carnahan.

Executive Director's Report:

John-Mark Hack, Executive Director explained that the last minute agenda changes (i.e. removal of the Hopkinsville Grain Elevator Presentation and the Farmland Preservation Committee Report) were made as a result of Governor Patton's unavoidable absence from the meeting.

Ashley Davis, Communications and Public Information Officer, was introduced as the newest member of the Agricultural Development Board staff. Ashley's primary duties include the ADB website design, media relations, public information, etc. He advised that a priority is to establish the website.

Mr. Hack then outlined the achievements of the ADB in the past 90 days:

- Members have developed a working relationship with other members and staff
- The Strategic Investment Philosophy was adopted
- The Suggested Guiding Principles were adopted
- At least 1 member of 115 County Councils have attended the Council training sessions

John-Mark stressed Governor Patton's dedication to the Board and to the success of its goals. He advised that Governor Patton instructed Crit Luallen, Secretary of the Cabinet, and Jim Ramsey, State Budget Director, to make funds available to access the highest level of expertise for the evaluation of ADB's statewide comprehensive plan. These funds will come out of the Governor's budget. John-Mark Hack, Tim Woods, Staff Economist, and Jim Ramsey, State Budget Director, will travel to Harvard Business School on October 31, to meet with Dr. Raymond Goldberg, George Moffett Professor of Agriculture and Business, Emeritus. Dr. Goldberg has committed his time to reviewing and evaluating the plan.

Bylaws Committee:

Keith Jeffries, Chair of the Bylaws Committee presented the Bylaws Committee Report. He reviewed the bylaws document. Amendments were made to the document as follows:

Article II, Section 5, C. After the last sentence add: "Board members and committee members must submit by fax or email comments, revisions, or corrections of the written meeting record to the Executive Director within ten business days of receipt."

Article III, Section 2, B.7. At the end of the first sentence add: “The annual report will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to submission.” And

Article IV, C. add: “7. Personnel Committee”

Keith Jeffries moved with a second by Sam Lawson to approve the Bylaws as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Marketing & Entrepreneurship Committee:

Sam Lawson, Chairman of the Marketing & Entrepreneurship Committee presented the Committee report.

Mr. Lawson reviewed the document entitled ‘Agricultural Entrepreneurship Program’.

He advised that to be fiscally responsible, the Committee recommends combining the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer positions and referred to the amended organizational chart (included in the Agricultural Entrepreneurship Program document.) Sam Lawson moved, with a second by Dean Little that the Board adopt the amendment. The motion passed.

Next the Committee recommended that the Kentucky Center for Cooperative Development, be fully utilized to meet the Board’s cooperative development needs. As a result the committee recommends that the Cooperative Development Position be changed from a full-time position to one contracted as necessary. Sam Lawson moved to adopt the amendment, with a second by Susan Harkins. The motion passed.

Continuing with the report Mr. Lawson presented the Agricultural Entrepreneurship Business Plan. Sam Lawson moved to adopt the plan, with a second by Keith Jeffries.

There was much discussion.

As a result of the discussion, Susan Harkins moved to amend the name to Kentucky Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship, as suggested by Commissioner Smith. Eddie Sellers seconded the motion. The amendment passed.

Sam Moore suggested that the budget should remain flexible and not assign specific dollar figures to the staffing plan. There was a consensus of approval by the Board.

Keith Jeffries suggested that this plan be approved and budgeted for two years in the event that the Legislature vote to change the Board’s funding in the next General Session. There was a consensus of approval by the Board.

Commissioner Smith called for a vote on the Sam Lawson motion, seconded by Keith Jeffries to approve the plan, as amended. The motion passed.

Kentucky League of Cities:

Sylvia Lovely, Executive Director, Kentucky League of Cities made a presentation. She discussed ways that the Board keep in mind ways to develop Urban/Rural cooperation.

Comprehensive Statewide Plan:

John-Mark Hack reviewed the Comprehensive Plan outline, contained in the meeting packet. Tim Woods reviewed historical statistics on the various commodity products in the state. The purpose of the presentation was to provide the Board with as much information as possible to enable them to establish priority areas.

Presentation of Ideas:

Mark Kaser, Kentucky Wood Products Competitiveness Corporation updated the Board on the Secondary Wood Products industry in Kentucky.

Informational Presentations:

Steve Coleman, Division of Conservation, updated the Board on the Environmental Cost-Share Program. He detailed the funding distribution of the HB 611 monies.

Dan Cherry, President, Kentucky TriModal Transpark, updated the Board on the Transportation Infrastructure that the Transpark will provide Kentucky's farmers in the Bowling Green area.

Comprehensive Plan Comments/Suggestions:

Manville Bradford, David Wagner, Beth Tillary, Chuck Smith, Billy Thomas and Alvin Lyons, Community Farm Alliance discussed concerns with the Board members. They stated that the Alliance wasn't receiving enough information from their County Councils nor from the Board.

John-Mark Hack advised that meeting notices, agenda's, and meeting minutes of the ADB's meetings are emailed to Community Farm Alliance from the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy. The, UK County Cooperative Extension Service facilitates communications between the Board and County Councils. County Cooperative Extension Agents are responsible for communicating with Council members. UK County Cooperative Extension Service has a web site that posts all of the available information, for online access by Council Members.

Comprehensive Plan: Application Protocol, Procedures:

The Board members discussed possible protocol and procedures for receiving, screening, and processing applications.

John-Mark Hack advised that staff would compile specific ideas on paper and present the comprehensive plan at the next ADB meeting.

With no further business on the Agenda, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.